

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A gun safety device comprising:
a barrel plug assembly having
a first compression member,
a second compression member,
an expansion member sandwiched between the first compression member and the second compression member,
a joining member operatively linking the first compression member to the second compression member, wherein the joining member is adapted to draw at least one of the compression members towards the other compression member, and
an adjustable extension rod assembly extending from the second compression member, the adjustable extension rod assembly being configured to adjust the length of the device and including a tubular plug extension, a rod received in the tubular plug extension such that the rod can move with respect to the tubular plug extension, and an engagement mechanism that selectively engages a surface of the tubular extension to fix the location of the slidable rod in relation to the tubular plug extension.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the tubular plug extension attaches to the second compression member.
4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the adjustable rod assembly further comprises a sliding compression member, and the engagement mechanism includes a sliding expansion member received in the tubular plug extension, wherein the sliding expansion member is interposed between the rod and the sliding compression member.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein the sliding compression member and the rod are operatively connected to one another such that the at least one of the sliding compression member and the rod can be drawn toward the other to secure the rod in relation to the tubular plug extension.

6. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 4, further comprising an additional joining member operatively linking the sliding compression member to the rod, wherein the additional joining member is adapted to draw at least one of the sliding compression member and the rod towards the other.

7. (Withdrawn - Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising an outer expansion tube that fits over the expansion member and an adapter disposed at or near an end of the outer expansion tube, wherein the adjustable extension rod assembly attaches to the adapter.

8. (Withdrawn - Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising a flexible joint interposed between the tubular plug extension and the second compression member.

9. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 8, wherein the flexible joint comprises a spring.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Withdrawn - Previously Presented) The device of claim 10, wherein the engagement mechanism comprises an expandable portion on the sliding rod that selectively engages the tubular plug extension to fix the location of the sliding rod in relation to the tubular plug extension.

12. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 11, wherein the extension rod assembly further includes a wedge member received by the sliding rod to urge the expandable portion toward the tubular plug extension.

13. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 12, wherein the wedge member comprises a bolt having a tapered portion that cooperates with the expandable portion of the sliding rod to urge the expandable portion radially towards the tubular plug extension.

14. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 13, wherein the bolt is threadably received by the sliding rod.

15. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 12, further comprising a biasing member for biasing the wedge member, wherein the biasing member is received by the sliding rod.

16. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 11, wherein the tubular plug extension includes a plurality of inner notches adapted to selectively receive the expandable portion of the sliding rod.

17. (Withdrawn - Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the engagement mechanism of the adjustable extension rod assembly further includes a releasable catch mechanism that engages both the tubular plug extension and the sliding rod to fix the location of the tubular plug extension in relation to the sliding rod.

18. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 17, wherein the releasable catch mechanism includes a plunger having a ramp, a biasing member operatively engaging the plunger and a ball riding on the ramp, wherein each of the plunger, the biasing member and the ball is received by the sliding rod.

19. (Currently Amended) A gun safety device comprising:
a barrel plug assembly including an adjustable rod assembly to adjust the length of the barrel plug assembly and a selectively expandable portion to selectively engage the barrel of an associated gun, wherein the adjustable rod assembly includes a tubular extension having an internal bore and a slidable rod received in the internal bore of the tubular extension, the tubular extension and the slidable rod cooperating with one another to allow selective movement of the rod in and out of the bore and to inhibit rotational

movement of the rod in the bore, wherein the adjustable rod assembly includes an engagement mechanism attached to the slidable rod that selectively engages an inner surface of the tubular extension to fix the location of the slidable rod in relation to the tubular extension.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Original) The device of claim 20, wherein the engagement mechanism includes a compression member, an expansion member and a joining member, wherein the expansion member is sandwiched between the compression member and the slidable rod and the joining member is adapted to draw at least one of the compression member and the slidable rod toward the other.

22. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 19, ~~further comprising an expandable member attached to the slidable rod,~~ wherein the ~~expandable member~~ engagement mechanism is adapted to deform axially in response to a compressive force.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 22, further comprising a compression member attached to the ~~expandable member~~ engagement mechanism such that the ~~expandable member~~ engagement mechanism is sandwiched between the compression member and the slidable rod.

24. (Original) The device of claim 23, further comprising a joining member operatively linking the compression member to the slidable rod.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 19, wherein the tubular extension includes a plurality of notches dimensioned to receive the ~~expandable portion of the slidable rod~~ engagement mechanism.

27. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 19, wherein the slidable rod includes a slit formed in the ~~slidable~~ slidable rod at an end adjacent the ~~expandable portion~~ engagement mechanism, wherein the slit is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the slidable rod.

28. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 27, further comprising a wedge member adapted to be received ~~[[by]]~~ inside the ~~slidable rod~~ engagement mechanism for selectively expanding the ~~expandable portion of the slidable rod~~ engagement mechanism.

29. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The device of claim 19, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the engagement mechanism includes a releasable catch mechanism received in the slidable rod that selectively engages both the tubular extension and the slidable rod to fix the slidable rod in relation to the tubular extension.

30. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, further comprising a flexible joint interposed between the selectively expandable portion and the tubular extension.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 19, wherein the tubular extension includes a tab and the rod includes a slot configured to receive the tab.

32. (Previously Presented) A gun safety device comprising:
a barrel plug assembly including an adjustable rod assembly to adjust the length of the barrel plug assembly and a first selectively expandable portion configured to selectively engage the barrel of an associated gun, the adjustable rod assembly including a tubular extension having an internal bore, a slidable rod received in the internal bore of the tubular extension and an engagement mechanism connected to the rod, the engagement mechanism including a member configured to selectively move radially to selectively engage an inner surface of the tubular extension.

33. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the member of the engagement mechanism comprises an expandable member configured to deform upon compression to engage the inner surface of the tubular extension.

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the member of the engagement mechanism comprises a flanged lip disposed adjacent a slit in the slidable rod.

35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the member of the engagement mechanism comprises a ball.